

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



September 9, 2003

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-58-03

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL FOOD STAMP COORDINATORS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- ☒ State Law Change
- ☐ Federal Law or Regulation Change
- ☐ Court Order
- ☐ Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- ☐ Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: TRANSITIONAL FOOD STAMP BENEFITS TO HOUSEHOLDS WHO ARE
TERMINATING THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE CALWORKS PROGRAM

REFERENCE: Assembly Bill (AB) 1752 (Chapter 225, Statutes of 2003)

On August 9, 2003, the Governor signed AB 1752 (Chapter 225, Statutes of 2003), that contains a provision requiring the state to provide a transitional food stamp benefit program. Under this legislation, county welfare departments are required to provide transitional food stamp benefits to households who are terminating their participation in the CalWORKs program without the need to re-establish food stamp eligibility.

As provided in AB 1752, when a food stamp household loses CalWORKs cash assistance the household may then receive food stamp benefits for up to five months. Benefits would be the same as the amount received by the household prior to their termination from CalWORKs, adjusted for the loss of the CalWORKs grant. If the household was losing CalWORKs cash assistance due to a sanction or was otherwise disqualified from the Food Stamp Program they would not be eligible for the extension. Households may apply for recertification during the transitional period with benefits determined according to their current circumstances.

The Department is required to implement transitional food stamp benefits by January 1, 2004. Therefore, counties are advised to begin preparations to implement this program. The Department is currently drafting an All County Letter that will provide additional information on implementation of the program. Attached is a copy of the AB 1752 language regarding transitional benefits.

If you have any questions regarding the implementation of the transitional benefits program, please contact Detta Hunt of the Food Stamp Policy Development Unit at (916) 653-6161.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
RICHTON YEE, Chief
Food Stamp Branch

Attachment

BILL NUMBER: AB 1752 CHAPTERED
BILL TEXT

CHAPTER 225

FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE AUGUST 11, 2003

APPROVED BY GOVERNOR AUGUST 9, 2003

PASSED THE ASSEMBLY JULY 29, 2003

PASSED THE SENATE JULY 27, 2003

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 27, 2003

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 27, 2003

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 27, 2003

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 23, 2003

INTRODUCED BY Committee on Budget (Oropeza (Chair), Bermudez, Chan, Chu, Diaz, Dutra, Dymally, Goldberg, Hancock, Jackson, Liu, Montanez, Nakano, Pavley, Reyes, Simitian, and Wolk)

MARCH 11, 2003

An act to amend Sections 4055, 8810, 17400, and 17432 of, to add Section 17522.5 to, and to add and repeal Section 17560 of, the Family Code, to amend Sections 63049.1 and 63049.4 of the Government Code, to amend Sections 1522, 1523.1, 1523.2, 1534, 1568.05, 1569.185, 1569.33, 1596.803, 1596.871, 1597.09, 1597.55a, 1597.55b, 11970.4, and 127885 of, and to add Sections 11970.35 and 104558 to, the Health and Safety Code, to amend Sections 11001.5, 19271, and 19271.6 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, to amend Sections 1611, 1611.5, and 10533 of, and to add Sections 14003 and 14004 to, the Unemployment Insurance Code, and to amend Sections 9544, 9546, 9547, 11462, 11463, 11466.2, 11466.35, 12201, 18226, 19355.5, 19356, 19356.6, and 19356.7 of, to amend, repeal, and add Section 10088 of, and to add Sections 10544.2 and 18901.6 to, the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to human services, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

SEC. 33. Section 18901.6 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

18901.6. To the maximum extent allowable by federal law, each county welfare department shall provide transitional food stamp benefits to households terminating their participation in the CalWORKs program for a period of five months. Benefits shall be provided from the date participation in the CalWORKs program is terminated and shall be in an amount equal to the allotment received in the month immediately preceding that date, adjusted for the change in household income as a result of termination in the CalWORKs program. No adjustment shall be made within the five-month period based on information from another program in which the household participates. A household may reapply during the transition period to have benefit levels adjusted. If necessary, the county welfare department shall extend the annual food stamp recertification period until the end of the transition period.